

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-5, 7-14 and 16-32 are pending in the application. Claims 1-5, 7-14 and 16-32 are rejected. Claims 6 and 15 were previously cancelled. Claims 1, 10, 19, and 27 are amended.

Claims 1-4, 10-13 and 19-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Cox et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,644,452, hereinafter “Cox”. Claims 5, 7-9, 14 and 16-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cox in view of Cubero Pitel, U.S. Patent No. 6,160,239, hereinafter “Cubero Pitel”.

Each of the independent claims have been amended to more fully set forth the claimed embodiments by describing embodiments wherein the surface of a pin element is directly attached to a surface of a first component and a surface of an arm portion (*e.g.*, as described in claim 1).

Such a feature is neither shown nor suggested by the cited Cox reference. *See e.g.*, cited Figs. 1 and 2. In Figure 1, the cited pin element (18) is not directly attached to either the cited first component (14) or the cited arm component (16); the cited pin element (18) is instead inserted through the guide hole 21 and hole 20, precluding direct attachment. *See Cox*, column 3, line 38-40. Similarly, in Figure 2, the guide hole 46 and hole 44 prevent the direct attaching of a pin surface to the surface of a first component or an arm portion.

Cubero Pitel fails to make up for the deficiencies of Detjens. Cubero Pitel is directed toward a laser soldering procedure applicable to the joining of pins over printed circuit boards. However, it does not describe at least these relevant limitations of claim 1 anywhere.

Since at least these features of independent claims 1, 10, 19 and 27 are missing from the cited references, claim 1 is not anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). Claims 2-5, 7-9, 11-14,

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16-18, 20-26, and 28-32 are allowable as depending from the allowable base claims 1, 10, 19 and 27. Based on the arguments above, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1-5, 7-14 and 16-32 is respectfully requested.

It is believed that this Amendment places the application in condition for allowance, and early favorable consideration of this Amendment is earnestly solicited.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, an interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. **11-0600**.

Respectfully submitted,

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